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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Yasuhiro SHIMADA et al.) : Examiner: K.T. Nguyen
Application No.: 09/819,906) : Group Art Unit: 2881
Filed: March 29, 2001) : Confirmation No.: 5368
For: ELECTRON OPTICAL SYSTEM ARRAY,)
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE) :
SAME, CHARGED-PARTICLE BEAM) : September 2, 2004
EXPOSURE APPARATUS, AND DEVICE)
MANUFACTURING METHOD)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statements filed on October 23, 2001, January 29, 2003, June 4, 2003, October 14, 2003, November 6, 2003, December 12, 2003, January 30, 2004, April 29, 2004, and July 29, 2004, in compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. A copy of the listed document is also enclosed.

The listed document was cited during prosecution of copending U.S. patent application number 10/454,576, filed June 5, 2003, and published as U.S. publication number 2003/0209673 on November 13, 2003, a copy of which was previously submitted in this application.

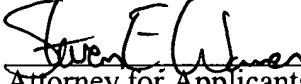
Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such

information has been considered.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fee be deemed necessary for filing this paper.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

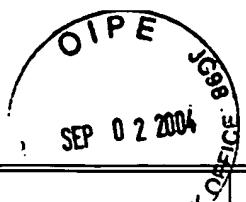
Respectfully submitted,



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SEW/eab



*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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